

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference CFE03635WO	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/JP2004/006918	International filing date (day/month/year) 14/05/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 14/05/2003
Applicant CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.



It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

- a. With regard to the **language**, the international search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.



The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).



With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2.



Certain claims were found unsearchable (See Box II).

3.



Unity of invention is lacking (see Box III).

4. With regard to the title,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

5. With regard to the abstract,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.



the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the drawings,

- a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 5



as suggested by the applicant.



as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.



as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

- b. ☐

none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

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Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

An image forming apparatus has a first image formation mode A for forming an image 502 on an image bearing member by using developer under a first predetermined image forming condition and a second image formation mode B for forming an image 507 on an image bearing member by using developer under a second image forming condition which is different from the first predetermined image forming condition regarding, eg. exposure energy and bias voltages for charging and developing, and is set so that an amount of consumption of developer with respect to an identical image in the second image formation mode is smaller than that in the first image formation mode, the apparatus includes storing means 50,103 for storing information on an amount of usage of the image bearing member i.e. wear, and control means 105 for changing the second image forming condition in the second image formation mode depending on the information stored in the storing means.

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International Application No

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G03G15/08 G03G15/043

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 G03G

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 583 621 A (NARUKAWA TOSHIKI) 10 December 1996 (1996-12-10)	1,2, 7-12,14, 15,18, 19,21, 22,25, 26,28,29
Y	column 1, lines 6-36; figures 2-5,6C column 4, line 7 - column 6, line 53	3
X	US 2002/044786 A1 (KATO SHINJI) 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18)	18
A	'0106!, '0115! figures 10-12	1-17, 19-31
	----- -/--	



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

A document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

E earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

L document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

O document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

P document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

* & * document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 September 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

04/11/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 324 356 B1 (INOUE YOSHIYA) 27 November 2001 (2001-11-27)	18
Y	column 1, lines 13-52; figures 1-5	3
A	column 4, line 25 - column 5, line 4	1,2, 4-17, 19-31
X	----- US 5 960 232 A (CHENG KUANGTI TED) 28 September 1999 (1999-09-28)	1,2,4, 7-13, 16-20, 23-27, 30,31
	column 1, lines 21-59; figures 1-5 column 3, line 36 - column 4, line 52 -----	

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/JP2004/006918

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5583621	A	10-12-1996	JP 8054806 A	27-02-1996
			DE 69523712 D1	13-12-2001
			DE 69523712 T2	08-05-2002
			EP 0704818 A1	03-04-1996
US 2002044786	A1	18-04-2002	JP 2002116585 A	19-04-2002
US 6324356	B1	27-11-2001	JP 2001194855 A	19-07-2001
US 5960232	A	28-09-1999	NONE	